

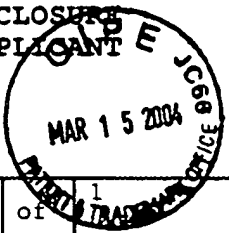
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| Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> |                        | Application Number   | 10/723,797           |
|                                                                                               |                        | Filing Date          | November 25, 2003    |
|                                                                                               |                        | First Named Inventor | Toshio OKAMURA et al |
|                                                                                               |                        | Group Art. Unit      | 2833                 |
|                                                                                               |                        | Examiner Name        |                      |
| Sheet 1 of 1                                                                                  | Attorney Docket Number | 03698/LH             |                      |



**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Exam. Inits <sup>1</sup> | Cite No <sup>2</sup> | Document Number | Kind Code <sup>3</sup> | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant Portion |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
|                          |                      |                 |                        |                               |                             |                  |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Exam. Inits <sup>1</sup> | Cite No <sup>2</sup> | Offc <sup>3</sup> | Document Number <sup>4</sup>                   | Kind Code <sup>5</sup> | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant Portion | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| ST                       | —                    | JP                | 5-57775                                        |                        |                               | 07-30-1993                  | —                | *              |
|                          |                      |                   | *English language translation of Claim 1 only. |                        |                               |                             |                  |                |

|                    |                     |                 |            |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Examiner Signature | <i>Larisa Tunes</i> | Date Considered | 09/05/2004 |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------|

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: March 12, 2004